

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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R 071036Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3666

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENTIANE 3093

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, LA

SUBJECT: KING'S VISIT TO SAM NEUA

1. LAO AMBASSADOR TO U.S., KHAMPHAN PANYA, SAW KING IN LUANG PRABANG ON MAY 5 AND HAS JUST GIVEN ME A RUN DOWN OF KING'S IMPRESSIONS OF HIS VISIT TO SAM NEUA. ACCORDING TO KHAMPHAN, KING WAS VERY HAPPY WITH IT. IT WAS CONDUCTED IN TRUE LAO STYLE. THERE WERE NO IDEOLOGICAL SLOGANS IN ANY OF THE SPEECHES GIVEN BY SOUPHANOUVONG, WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE VISIT. THE KING THOUGHT THAT THE LPF'S PURPOSES IN INVITING HIM WERE ON THE ONE HAND INTERNAL TO REASSURE LAO IN BOTH ZONES THAT LPF DID INDEED SUPPORT MONARCHY WHICH WAS SYMBOL OF COUNTRY, AND ON THE OTHER HAND INTERNATIONAL TO GIVE EVIDENCE THAT IN FACT LPF WAS MODERATE AND NOT REVOLUTIONARY FORCE. KING WAS STRUCK BY ABSENCE OF VIETNAMESE EXCEPT FOR THOSE WHO WERE CONSTRUCTING VIENG SAY AND THERE HE WAS IMPRESSED BY THE ENERGY DEVOTED TO THAT CONSTRUCTION.

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2. KING WAS ALSO PLEASED THAT HE HAD OCCASION TO MEET

ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE; SPECIFICALLY KAYSON, NOUHAK, FAYDANG AND PEUY SIPRASEUTH, BESIDES PHOUMI AND SOUPHANOUVONG. (SITTHONE APPARENTLY WAS NOT PRESENT.) KING BELIEVED THAT CENTRAL COMMITTEE WANTED TO MEET HIM TO JUDGE WHETHER THEY COULD WORK TOGETHER. HE BELIEVED THAT HE SATISFIED THEM ON THIS COUNT BY SAYING THAT THE CROWN WAS ABOVE IDEOLOGY, THAT HE REPRESENTED THE COUNTRY AND THAT IT WAS UP TO THE PEOPLE TO DETERMINE THEIR FORM OF GOVERNMENT. FOR HIS PART, HE WAS IMPRESSED BY THE POLITENESS AND PROPRIETY WITH WHICH THEY TREATED HIM.

3. AS A REVEALING VIEW OF THE KING'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS HIS TRIP, KHAMPHAN MENTIONED THAT THE CROWN PRINCE, THE PRESIDENT OF THE KING'S COUNCIL, AND THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE PALACE, ALL PRINCES OF THE BLOOD, HAD NOT ACCOMPANIED THEIR MAJESTIES BECAUSE, "AFTER ALL THIS WAS A BIT OF AN ADVENTURE."

4. COMMENT: FROM KING'S ACCOUNT IT SEEMS THAT THE REPORTS OF THE VISIT PUBLISHED FROM LPF SOURCES HAVE GENERALLY BEEN ACCURATE AND THAT FROM BOTH THE KING'S AND LPF'S POINTS OF VIEWS THE VISIT WAS A SUCCESS. THE KING EVIDENTLY BELIEVES THAT THE LPF WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE MONARCHY AS A UNIFYING FACTOR AND THE LPF PRESUMABLY ARE SATISFIED THAT THE KING WILL NOT STAND IN THEIR WAY TO TAKING POWER.
CHAPMAN

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